

*Rec'd
Feb 23, 2001*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Patricia Preikschat et al.

Serial No.: 09/171,558 Art Unit: 1775 *#23*

Filed: March 29, 1999

Title: CHROMIUM (VI)-FREE CONVERSION LAYER
AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING IT

Examiner: R. Koehler

Docket No.: 31716

PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.84
(Filed in response to Paper No. 17)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

Sir:

As set forth in the accompanying cover letter, applicant hereby requests and petitions under 37 CFR 1.84 that the Office accept color photographs in the above-identified case. The \$130.00 petition fee is included. The conditions for accepting color drawings and black-and-white photographs have been met. Three copies of each color photograph are included. The photographs are permanently mounted on bristol board. Black-and-white photocopies of the color photographs are also included.

Color photographs are necessary in this case to compare the colors of the inventive coating and other prior art coatings. The discussion in the specification comparing the various colors would be meaningless if the photographs were available only in black and white.

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If there are any fees required by this communication not covered by an enclosed check, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, order No. 31716.

Respectfully submitted,
PEARNE & GORDON LLP

By John D. Murtaugh
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Date: Jan. 31, 2001